

FLORENCE COUNTY, WISCONSIN -- COMMONWEALTH TOWNSHIP – SPREAD EAGLE NEWS COLUMNS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William John Cummings]



The Florence Mining News. Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume II, Number 30 [Saturday, July 22, 1882], page 1, column 5

A fine **summer hotel**, with balconies[,] minarets [*sic – minarets*], and cupolas [*sic – cupolas*] and all that sort of thing, on the outside and handsome waiter girls, and a Chicago laundried [*sic – laundered*] sample room clerk with a half a pound diamond breast pin on the inside, is to be built on the bank of **Spread Eagle lake** next summer. A **steam yacht** will simultaneously be placed on the lake and this labyrinthian [*sic*] water echo and pulsate to the melodious strains of the steam whistle – or possibly a calliope.

The Florence Mining News. Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume II, Number 30 [Saturday, July 22, 1882], page 1, column 6

SPREAD Eagle lake is getting to be such a summer resort for the warm-hearted Florentines that the legislature will have to be petitioned next winter for its removal nearer to town. Its fame is spreading far and wide and has even reached the distant shores of Marquette. From all accounts it is the only piece of paradise left uncovered, after the flood; an elysium [*sic – Elysium*] more pure and bright than earth has ere

before unfolded; where snow-white robed and disembodied spirits will flit athwart the perfumed and circumambient atmosphere, in a golden heave, all their own, and rink of joy eternal; where age, as if partaking of the fabled fountains, will rejuvenate itself where sorrow is unknown and bliss supernal reigns supreme.

Later: -- We have been *thar* and it is all that fancy paints it.

The Florence Mining News. Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume II, Number 33 [Saturday, August 12, 1882], page 1, column 3

NONE of the numerous summer visitors from **Florence** to the charming **Spread Eagle lake** have seen fit to write up its loveliness for THE MINING NEWS. It is surely worth a few lines and THE MINING NEWS man knows that among the tourists were many whose powers of description far exceeded his own. He still hopes to hear from them.

A COUPLE of horses tried to stop the ore train on Saturday night in the vicinity of **Spread Eagle switch**. The train did not stop to have any conversation with them and left them in the ditch with broken legs. Engineer O.C. Hill, of the passenger train, next morning, found them yet both alive, and with commendable humanity, stopped and finished their misery with a pistol.

BEFORE a summer hotel is placed upon the romantic sheet of water to the eastward of us about 2 ½ miles and a steam yacht is running upon its waters, we hope to see the name changed. "Spread Eagle" savors a little too much of the Yankee pedlar [*sic – peddler*] and old time fourth of July orations. Give it some decent name before beginning to advertise its attractiveness to the outside world. Indian names if euphonious [*sic – euphonious*] are generally appropriate.

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The Florence Mining News. Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume II, Number 47 [Saturday, November 18, 1882], page 1, column 4

J.F. SHAFER has bought the beautiful property on the lake, at the east end of **Central avenue**, on which in an early day **Jack Armstrong** kept the **Spread Eagle Hotel**. It is one of the handsomest sites for a residence in all this northern country. The property comprises ten lots, some of them very large. Next season he will proceed to erect a handsome residence on the property. This winter he will – after fixing it up – life in the old hostelrie [*sic – hostelry*], which still remains. We are glad to welcome J.F. as one of our permanent citizens as he is a public spirited go ahead man, and we will take back all the bad things wich [*sic – which*] we have said about him and apologize.

[NOTE: The Spread Eagle Hotel was located at the east end of Central Avenue in Florence, not on the Spread Eagle Chain of Lakes. However, Jack Armstrong played a major role in the development of both places, and the name choice for his hotel is interesting at this early date.]

The Florence Mining News. Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume III, Number 1 [Saturday, December 30, 1882], page 1, column 5

FOR history's sake the NEWS desires to correct an error. It is generally supposed that the building used as an office for the **Merick Lumber company** was the first erected in town. Such is not the case, however. The little old building on the eastern extreme of Central Avenue, one known as the "**Spread Eagle hotel**," is the first and only original.

The Florence Mining News. Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume III, Number 28 [Saturday, July 14, 1883], page 1, columns 4-5

SPREAD EAGLE SPORT.

The Florence and Spread-Eagle Sporting Club, Organized to Enjoy the Unequaled Advantages Offered by Spread Eagle Lake – A Good Description of the Future Scene of Pleasure and Names of Some of those who will Enjoy it.

"The **Florence Spread Eagle sporting Club**," a most select organization[,] has been formed, [*sic*] with the object explained in the name. The new club has been imbued with life more active than usually given such formation at their inclination. The organization has a capital stock of \$2,500, divided into 250 shares of ten dollars each and the possession of a share entitles one to a membership. The shares on memberships are not transferable, unless by the consent of two-thirds of the members and care is to be taken as to whom shall acquire the boon of belonging. Following are those who thus far make up the club and the amount subscribed by each:

H.D. Fisher.....\$10	Geo. W. Baird.....\$10
D.E. Roberts..... 10	A.K. Godshall..... 10
A.A. Flint..... 10	C.L. Hastings..... 10
E.W. Dickenson.... 10	E.C. Davey..... 10
C.C. Olin..... 10	Dr. W.H. Washburne... 10
D.A. Graham..... 10	W.J. Hocking..... 10
H.C. Fielder..... 10	A.M. Pinto..... 10
R.B. Webb..... 10	G.C. Billman..... 10
C.E. Mclsaac..... 10	J.H. Parks..... 10

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James Tobin.....	10	N.D. Mihills.....	10
W.A. Whittlesey....	10	Capt. J.H. Buddle.....	10
Abel Keyes, (Menasha)	10	E.E. Keyes.....	10
A.E. Guensburg....	10	Charles Peterson.....	10
Charles Laughrey..	10	C. Sprong.....	10
J.I. Toner.....	10	Geo. Swift.....	10
J.V. Northam.....	10	Geo. R. Tuttle.....	10
Frank R. Whittlesey	10	Supt. Mars.....	10
J.F. Shafer.....	10	Rev. H.P. Cory.....	10
Capt. Taylor.....	10	H.E. Thompson.....	10
G.A. Walter.....	10	C.S. Osborn.....	10

Total \$400

As the name indicates for the most part the organization is made up of Florence people and the scene of the sport is to be **Spread Eagle Lake**, one of the most picturesque and enchanting expanses of inland water, *[sic]* imaginable. The lake or in reality neck o' lakes, is located about six miles from **Florence**, south on the line of the **Chicago and North-Western road**, and is also reached by an excellent drive. Black bass and pickerel, besides other varieties of the family of pisces, abound in its liquid depths and the attractions of the spot have long been noticed and appreciated. It has been the scene of more than one jolly camping party from Florence and oft has its banks echoed and re-echoed the merry sounds of mirthful glee evolved from the throats of gay mortals, there having found pleasure. The lake is desirable for those seeking recreation, pleasure, sport, etc., in every way. Plenty of fish inhabit its vast reservoir, quantities of noble game roam the adjacent territory, high camping spots, delightfully situated, are to *[be]* found here and there and the surroundings are gloriously, *[sic]* beautiful; enough so as to almost entrance the lover of nature.

The group, or neck o' lakes, which have been given the suggestive name of **Spread Eagle**, consists of eight lakes, of various sizes, all connected by means of narrow necks or straits and instead of extending in

a straight line, thus forming a chain o' lakes, they diverge, star-like, but irregularly, from a central basin. Such is their shore line that here and there are quaint coves and secluded nooks, so much admired by lovers of quietude and seclusion, when one can loll in his dancing skiff, rocked by the tiny wavelets and pass the sultry hours between fishing time, dreaming over some favorite author. The banks are evenly sloped at places, with no marshy interludes, but now and then a giant hill lifts it *[sic – its]* head out of the crystal basin, bearing huge pines, *[sic]* that stand sentinel-like, guarding the many narrow water courses that connect the curiously formed group. Natural wharves, usually seldom found, here abound, admiscible *[sic – admissible]* of a boat running into land without trouble, making embarking and disembarking an easy feature. The shores are coolingly *[sic]* shaded by green-topped pines and pretty clumps of other varieties of timber. In the season, the landscape is profusely decorated with fruitful productions, including wild strawberries, black and raspberries, whortle *[sic]* berries, etc. The depth of the water graduates to 400 feet and all of the connecting channels contain an abundance of *aqua pura* *[sic]* to float the largest craft. To traverse the shore line around the lakes would necessitate a tour of thirteen miles and the expanse furnishes a perfect field for a sail boat. A high wind just makes the surface pleurably chopping and taken in all, a more charming place for club house could not be found the country over.

The erection of a **club house** has already been commenced. It will be situated on as pretty a *campus* as is to be found around the entire neck o' lakes. The site chosen caps a narrow peninsula or back-bone, that stretches into the water about a mile's row from the railroad landing and rises promontory-like, forming a place high-and-dry and well shaded. A good

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wagon road has been constructed to the grounds from the main road and the club house will be soon completed. Trains from Florence, each way, twice a day, make the place convenient and easy of access, while the nearness, [sic] makes the railroad fare almost a non-entity. The club house will be L-shaped and consist of four rooms – a dining room 14x26 feet, a kitchen 14x14 feet and two dressing rooms, each 6x7 feet in dimensions. Along the south and west sides will be piazzas, the entire length of the structure will be a model one for its extend and use, and will involve not a little of the beauty in architecture.

Last Saturday a party visited the scene of the new organization's headquarters and had a splendid day's diversion. Those present were **M.F. Merick**, wife and family of **Menominee**; **H.D. Fisher** and wife, **W.A. Whittlesey** and wife, **G.A. Walter** and family, **D.A. Graham** and wife, **Misses Mclsaac**, **Lucy Stid**, and **Emma Olin**; **Mrs. H.E. Thompson**, **Mrs. Joe Keyes**, **A.K. Godshall**, **A.M. Pinto**, **Henry Fielder**, **J.I. Toner** and **C.S. Osborn** and wife. The new club house is to be used for the first time, dedicated as it were, during August, when it will be occupied by the members, their wives and families, for some time. The Club's existence opens auspiciously and the NEWS is sure that its history will be traced and perpetuated by naught but sport and pleasure.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume III, Number 31 [Saturday, August 4, 1883], page 1, column 6

Iron Mountain will follow in the foot steps [sic – footsteps] of enterprising Florence and organize a **sporting club house at Spread Eagle**. The Eagle is a beautiful neck o'lakes and it is bound to become renowned as a pleasure resort.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume III, Number 34 [Saturday, August 25, 1883], page 8, column 1

Spread Eagle Spray.

[SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.]

Fred John, the sunny-eyed, fair-haired Arcadian son-of-the-woods, who keeps the **ferry at Spread Eagle** and conveys passengers between the club house and station, has great expectations for the future of that already popular resort. Fred has won many friends, by his accommodating nature, agility and alacrity. Place yourself in his charge and you may anticipate without disappointment a run of genuine sport without the necessary backing of Jay Gould's exchequer.

Matters at the Eagle are lapsing into a more quiescent state. But it has had a great run comparatively and is destined to make a place of summer rest, equaled by few in the northwest. In all probability next season will witness the erection of a commodious hotel which, in the hands of an enterprising manager, will fill more than one dilapidated northern purse, to the tune of emptying plethoric corn sacks from the land of sunshine and flowers. All the Eagle needs is proper management and advertising. It has everything else.

The jolly Marinettters have all deserted the Eagle, but not without giving expression to themselves in more ways than one. Florence and Marinette were never closer related than now, all born of socialism, but not of the Herr Most variety. The last number of the Marinette Eagle contained an impromptu poem by "Shorty," which is fraught with good feeling, even if the

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author's name did not work up and make as good time as that of some others which have been on the track. The following names of Florence people were made to do duty in assisting to fill out the requisite "feet": **Vint and Mrs. Northam, Lucy Stid, Joe Keyes** and wife, **H.D. Fisher** and family, **Charley Willson, Misses Dickenson and Mathews** and **Dr. O'Dell**.

Bear shooting is an exciting divertisement [*sic* – *divertissement*] indulged in by the more adventurous resorters. Several shaggy members of the family *ursine*, make their home in a jungle near the strait leading to the northernmost lake. In the early morn or evening, bruin may be seen, squatting on his haunches in the tall grass bordering the rivulet-like strait, seemingly intent on watching something in the water. Suddenly his great paw will flash through the air line a black streak, returning slower with a struggling amphibian. This deposited in his maw and the act is repeated. The bear is frog-hunting for food and deftly enough does he succeed in catching a mess of croakers. Sometimes he varies his diet and is then to be seen standing out in the water, plying his paw, shovel-like, between his mouth and the bottom. Bruin is taking a clam-chowder in the raw state. The shells are cracked, the luscious contents lapped out and the calcareous casings drop again to the water, to decay, perhaps, and form great beds of fertilizers that will be used by future generations. It takes more than one bivalve to fill a large bear's capacious paunch.

While thus engaged in dining it is comparatively easy to approach unnoticed within gunshot of the great brutes. Two of them have been killed, but there are still several more. In fact it seems there is a veritable bear colony in the vicinity of the north lake.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume IV, Number 28 [Saturday, July 12, 1884], page 4, column 1

A SPREAD EAGLE SPOOK.

INDIAN LOVERS IN A BIRCH CANOE HAUNT THE BEAUTIFUL CHAIN OF LAKES.

It is not generally known that the Bad Water Indians regard the Spread Eagle chain o' lakes as haunted and look upon them with mingled reverence and awe. It is a fact that they seldom visit the lakes. Their story goes as follows: Some years ago, before their primeval homes were invaded by the rude feet of the pale faces and the red deer was only startled by the whirring arrow, a certain chief had a beautiful daughter named "Singing Wind." This Indian maiden was wooed by a young brave belonging to a tribe far to the north. His name was "Slay-the-Bear," and his deeds of prowess were many. While indulging in the grand fall hunt, the two tribes became involved in a dispute and the braves donned their war paint. All intercourse between the clans was forbidden by the respective chiefs and this caused much pain to "Singing Wind" and "Slay-the-Bear." The young brave was determined to continue his visits to his brown-faced betrothed, notwithstanding the fact that he knew death for his disobedience, and ridicule, which he regarded as worse than death, for his weakness, awaited him if discovered. He would join "Singing Wind" and the two would go out on the Spread Eagle lakes in a birch canoe and make love in real

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civilized style, bidding fear be gone and feasting on the joys of each other's countenance. One night, just as the silvery new moon was peeping down upon them through the treetops, they were surprised by a war party. Sooner than survive to be separated they leaped into the water, clasped in mutual embrace and sank to arise no more. Ever since that night the Indians claim that the loving children of the forest appear upon the lakes in a birch canoe with the advent of the new moon, and glide over the shimmering surface of the miniature sea from one extremity to the other, in the position of lovers. At the end of the lake the canoe sinks, carrying with it the wooing spirits, to appear no more until inspired and accompanied by the next infant crescent. Fred John, the Spread Eagle guide, says he has never seen the apparition, but says if he does he will take to his heels and be seen in Florence at midnight.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume IV, Number 28 [Saturday, July 12, 1884], page 8, column 1

The **Spread Eagle chain o' lakes** are [*sic – is*] even more popular than ever this summer. **Fred John**, the accommodating and efficient guide, has a large fleet of pleasure boats on the lake and is also prepared to furnish ice to camping parties. Spread Eagle presents more charm for sportsmen and more real rest and absence of turmoil, than any resort in northern Wisconsin. The seeker of rest and pleasure can enjoy undisturbed nature to his heart's content, and the fishing and hunting is excellent. Camping parties can here obtain a large amount of what they seek for a very little money.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume IV, Number 29 [Saturday, July 19, 1884], page 1, column 2 [ADVERTISEMENT]

Spread Eagle.

Fred. John, the celebrated guide, fisherman and hunter, has established a fleet of boats at the delightful **Spread Eagle Chain o' lakes** and is prepared to cater to the wants of fishing and hunting parties. He filled an ice house last winter and lacks nothing that will assist in enjoying the pleasure of that grand, woody and watery retreat. 18-3 mo.pd

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume IV, Number 36 [Saturday, September 6, 1884], page 1, column 5

A wild storm at **Spread Eagle** a short time ago created considerable havoc in the woods and endangered the **club house** and **Fred John's island home**.

Fred John is excavating a cellar and will build an addition 22x12 feet to his **island home at Spread Eagle**. This is to add better storage facilities and lodging accommodations.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume IV, Number 45 [Saturday, November 8, 1884], page 1, column 6

Fred John was in town Tuesday. He has enlarged his **residence on Jean Island at Spread Eagle** and has added a roomy and comfortable workshop. Fred now has a good place to live on the romantic little island. He is a splendid guide and cruiser.

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The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume V, Number 26 [Saturday, June 27, 1885], page 1, column 6

Fred. John has built nice **new docks at the railroad landing** and also at his **island-home wharf**. He has also erected a neat and commodious **bark house at Spread Eagle station** for the accommodation of visitors. A spring of fresh cold water has been discovered on the island. Fred. Is determined that his Spread Eagle guests shall not lack for comfort.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume V, Number 30 [Saturday, July 25, 1885], page 1, column 6

Fred. John, the **Spread Eagle** host, still continues to improve the railroad approach to that beautiful chain o'lakes. His latest work is a **wide and easily-inclined walk from the depot to the wharf**.

The Current, Norway, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume I, Number 26 [Saturday, August 1, 1885], page 1, column 1

Fred John, the chief of **Spread Eagle**, says that he intends having a **steam craft** on the lake next season.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume V, Number 35 [Saturday, August 29, 1885], page 1, column 6

Vandals burned the rustic waiting house at the Spread Eagle docks, [sic] last week.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume VI, Number 10 [Saturday, March 6, 1886], page 1, column 6

Fred. John, of **Spread Eagle** fame, was in town last Saturday. Fred's hair has grown long in the solitudes of the forest, where he is **spending the winter trapping with Paul Miller, of Badwater**. They have traps on the **Pine, Popple and Menominee** and have harvested quite a catch of furs, including ten beavers, two otters, seventy-five minks, twenty-five martins and some other pelts. Fred says the snow has been too deep for a good trapping season.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume VI, Number 38 [Saturday, September 18, 1886], page 5, column 1

Fred John, the enterprising **Spread Eagle guide and boatman**, brought the editor a splendid five pound pickerel on Thursday, which he captured in the crystal waters of the beautiful **Spread Eagle chain o'lakes**.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume VI, Number 41 [Saturday, October 9, 1886], page 5, column 1

Fred John, the **Spread Eagle guide and boatman**, was in town on Monday and furnished this journal with a list containing the number and residence of those who have visited that attractive and popular resort during the season rapidly closing. It is here given: **Iron Mountain**, 300; **Florence**, 75; **Norway**, 60; **Crystal Falls**, 30; **Commonwealth**, 45; **Iron River**, 4; **Quinneseec**, 8; **Green Bay**, 10; **Fond du Lac**, 2; **Oshkosh**, 2; **Oconto**, 4; **Madison**, 2; **Milwaukee**, 10; **Marinette**, 35; **Chicago**,

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8; Auburn, N.Y., 2; New York City, 3; Philadelphia, 2; Menominee, 35; Marquette, 4; Escanaba, 2; Rock Island, 1; All other places, 37; Total, 671.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume VI, Number 46 [Saturday, November 13, 1886], page 1, column 6; page 8, column 1

SPREAD EAGLE.

E.C. EASTMAN PENS A TRIBUTE TO FLORENCE COUNTY LAKES.

Interesting Reminiscences of Spread Eagle – A Jolly Camping party and the Fun They had – A Gem of the Northern Woodlands – “The Lap of Wavelets and the Dip of Oars” – A Sunday at the Lake – The Newspaper Man’s Little Note Book – Perfumed Frogs and Croaking Pond Lilies – The Campers’ Wonderful Appetite – Mermaids Bathing in West Lake – Spread Eagle the Pride of Florence County.

At the recent meeting of an *elite* social club in **Marinette**, Mr. **E.C. Eastman**, a prominent and popular attorney of that city, read a paper entitled “**Reminiscences of Spread Eagle.**” As this beautiful chain o’lakes is in Florence county and only six miles from Florence, the local readers and many of the outside ones too, of the MINING NEWS, will peruse Mr. Eastman’s paper with lively interest and will emphatically echo his sentiments. It is here given.

REMINISCENCES OF SPREAD EAGLE.

There is a certain spot in the wilderness of Northern Wisconsin, [*sic*] which is dear to the memory of at least thirty people and doubtless to very many more, but for the thirty we can vouch. In August, 1886, a party from Marinette, Wisconsin, and Iron Mountain, Michigan, camped at the beautiful summer resort known as Spread Eagle. It is not my intention to dwell on the beauties of this sylvan gem and exhaust all the adjectives known to the English language, nor to indulge in those rhetorical flights of description which so captivate the author and disgusts the reader of a story. I shall not do this for three reasons: first, because I can’t; second, because the subject does not need it and third, because a large portion of my hearers are from actual experience as keenly alive to the pleasures and sports of this charming and restful place as I am. And already their feelings and imaginations have gone far in advance of the reminiscencer’s [*sic*] pen. We were camped at Spread Eagle just eight days. As we boarded the train at Marinette, thither bound, the reporter of one of our papers handed us a small blank book with the parting injunction: “Do you write therein such things as may occur among your party.” We, being ignorant of the demands of a very particular public and of the law of slander and libel, wrote in that precious book every happening from the purchasing of our tickets down to the love affairs of certain young ladies, fighting sand fleas and mosquitos [*sic – mosquitoes*] and breaking up camp. Said book thereupon became the most interesting and attractive part of the writer, judging at least from the frantic efforts made by the ladies to obtain possession of the same. Once at the lake we were taken in divers boats over to the club house [*sic – clubhouse*], which is about

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one mile from the landing. Bordering the shore on this crystal lake, we could see beautiful pond lilies and bull frogs [*sic – bullfrogs*] in full bloom. They were croaking sweet anthems (that is the bull frogs [*sic – bullfrogs*] were) and they filled the air with delicious fragrance (the lilies did). Upon rounding the bend in the lake the club house [*sic – clubhouse*] broke upon our vision, and oh! what feeling filled our minds, as we saw that peaceful, but majestic retreat, surrounded by the white-walled fence, which was to shield us from the cool night air and the balmy mosquito. Yet verily our hearts were full and our stomachs were empty as we thought of the dinner spread with such plenty awaiting us all at the club house [*sic – clubhouse*]. Dinner over we busied ourselves for the greater part of the afternoon cutting brush and bows [*sic – boughs*] to make our beds comfortable and downy as it were and occasionally one or two would steal away, and the next that would be seen or heard of the truants, [*sic*] would be a shout of defiance as they shot out onto the lake, thus, leaving bed-making and bow [*sic – bough*] cutting far behind. Full soon the diurnal meteor sank into the west and the lengthening shadows of the tall pines, the cheerful chirp of the cricket and the hungry wail of the infant, [*sic*] warned us that supper time was nigh, and immediately the long drawn halloo of the cook announced that the warning was not in vain and the evening meal was ready. And as we seated ourselves around the table[,] only those who were there can tell of the looks and satisfaction that came, as we beheld the bounteous repast spread before us. If at dinner we were hungry[,] at supper we were ravenous. The silence was broken by the click of the knife and fork, and with frequent calls for this or that favorite viand. Especially were the ladies loud in their demands for food and the poor gentlemen rather took what was left. As the

food disappeared and the tables began to look scant, we involuntarily turned towards the Messrs. Laing, but the calm assurance of their serene faces convinced us that they had provided for camping parties before and that the larder was well stocked. After the evening meal, we were all gathered beneath the pines which shaded the club house [*sic – clubhouse*], while quiet reigned supreme and the enemy of day-light [*sic – daylight*] come [*sic – came*] stealing softly and silently around and over the group. The awe of the darkness of of [*sic*] night of a primeval forest, mysteriously falling upon us, caused us unconsciously to

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SPREAD EAGLE.

Continued from First Page.

to [*sic*] narrow the circle, and all was still, save the gentle lap of the wavelets as they kissed the pebbly shore in mild response to the evening breeze. Soon a sharp crack rang out on the still evening air, and the life blood of an innocent mosquito had adorned the pearly brow of a hitherto guileless maiden. That slap broke the spell. The match was applied to the pile of dried wood and a bright blaze sprang right nigh to the tree-tops [*sic – treetops*], then mirth, song and jest filled the dim old woods, until the denizens of the forest must have thought pandemonium was let loose. At length, the mothers of the party withdrew for the purpose of putting to bed the extreme younger portion of the campers, and the occasional whack, whack, and accompanying wail told how impatiently were said mothers waiting for slumber to

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quiet the spirits of their offspring, so that they might again join the merry party around the fire. Finally, one by one, two by two, we retired to our respective tents and sought repose. Soon there was to be seen standing at the doorway of one tent a man, rifle in hand, cautiously looking around. He then advanced a few steps and uttered a low peculiar whistle, which was answered by another, a short distance away. The two shadowy forms stole silently down to the water, stepped into a boat and pushed out from shore, and all was lost in the gloom of darkness, and nothing could be heard save the silent dip, dip, of the oars. But who were the mysterious pair and upon what foul intent were they bent? What murderous design filled their evil hearts as they crept with such stealth from the sleeping encampment and rode out upon the calm bosom of the lake? One of them was that everlasting lawyer and the other a stranger from Iron Mountain. But why such stealth? Ah! they were going to hunt the innocent deer and the game law was not yet out. But all this care and caution might have been spared, for all their hunting was in vain, so the law remained unbroken. The second day saw the party as happy as the first, and as the arrangements of camp were completed, we divided into groups and soon the lake was seen dotted with row boats *[sic – rowboats]*, filled with merry, noisy people. One afternoon several of the ladies formed a secret society and determined upon a bathing expedition, so they filled two or three of the boats and hied themselves away to a shady and secluded nook on the southern shore of West lake. Shortly after they had gone, one of the young ladies of the party, who was cognizant of the intention and whereabouts of the bathers, took a boat and rowed toward West lake, which[,] by the way, is connected to the main or South lake by a very narrow inlet completely shaded by the

foliage of the trees. As the young lady placed herself in the boat, a most mischevious *[sic – mischievous]* and wanton smile spread over her face, and as she reached the said inlet sounds of mirth and glee filled the air near by *[sic – nearby]*, and the smile of pleasure deepened on her face. Then giving several vigorous pulls on the oars she let her boat drift noiselessly into West lake. No sooner did the sportive mermaids behold the boat than fertile imagination loaded it down with horrid men. Alas! some sorrows are too deep for utterance and some scenery too vivid to be painted with the brush or writer's pen. Suffice it to say that that evening, around the camp fire *[sic – campfire]*, a mysterious hush was frequently heard emanating from some of the ladies, whenever the subject of bathing was broached, but, of course, to the little blank book of the newspaper man *[sic – newspaperman]* was confided the most profound secret. The succeeding days passed with varied sports and pastimes and when some strangers came and camped on the island opposite the club house *[sic – clubhouse]* they were the all absorbing topics of interest, and when it was ascertained that three of them were unmarried, the joy and happiness of our young ladies knew no bounds, and it was with difficulty that we older and more quiet ones could keep them in check. The Sabbath passed pleasantly and quietly with *[a]* short bible *[sic – Bible]* service, conducted by Rev. Hale, one of the Island strangers. We were also favored on that day with a number of visitors from Marinette, who made a very pleasant addition to our party while they remained. The intervening time between that and Tuesday passed so pleasantly that it was with genuine regret and sorrow that we struck our tents and started for home. But we took with us many pleasant memories associated with the spot, every tree old and

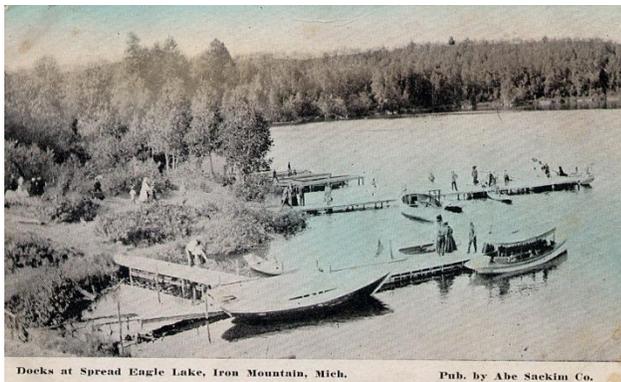
FLORENCE COUNTY, WISCONSIN -- COMMONWEALTH TOWNSHIP – SPREAD EAGLE NEWS COLUMNS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William John Cummings]

time-worn though they were, [sic] seemed to share our sport and every nook and glen of the lake to glisten and babble with our joyous mirth and we would feign have stayed on forever and enjoyed the listless rest and recreation of the pleasantness of all summer resorts.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume VIII, Number 33 [Saturday, August 11, 1888], page 8, column 1

FRED JOHN and the section boss between this city and Iron Mountain are going to build a shed at the Spread Eagle station. The structure will be built of old railroad ties which the section men are now engaged in removing, replacing them with new ones. Fred's enterprise will be commended by hundreds of people who regularly visit **Spread Eagle** and who are often compelled to wait for trains during rain storms. A substantial depot should have been built by the company long ago.



The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume IX, Number 5 [Saturday, January 26, 1889], page 5, columns 3-4

Good-Bye, Old Fellow.

Commodore **Fred John**, the famous hunter and guide, has **sold his island, buildings, boats, etc., at the popular summer resort, Spread Eagle**, and intends to seek a new home amid the dense forests a hundred miles or more from this city. Fred has hunted and trapped in this vicinity for twelve long years and has resided at his lonely island home at **Spread Eagle** for the past six years. Owing to his enterprising efforts, accommodating spirit and kindly ways, **Spread Eagle** has become one of the best-known resorts in this part of the state, and hundreds of pleasure seekers and tourists will miss his good-natured face and cheery laugh. Fred is a born gentleman, a true friend, and a man of strict integrity and honesty. He longs, however, for the solitude of the forests far remote from human habitation, where game of all kinds is more abundant.

Emanuel Chainey, of **Crystal Falls**, brother of town treasurer Chainey, of this city, is the **purchaser of Fred John's interests at Spread Eagle**. The MINING NEWS wishes Mr. Chainey the best of success in his new venture. He is a sober, steady young man, and merits the support of the old-time patrons of the resort. He contemplates making extensive improvements.



The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume IX,

FLORENCE COUNTY, WISCONSIN -- COMMONWEALTH TOWNSHIP – SPREAD EAGLE NEWS COLUMNS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William John Cummings]

Number 20 [Saturday, May 11, 1889],
page 8, columns 1-2

Improvements at Spread Eagle.

Emanuel Chainey, the new proprietor of the **Spread Eagle Lake resort**, is making many noteworthy improvements at his charming island retreat, which, when completed, will make the resort more popular than ever before. He has erected a fine dance hall, 24x40 feet, at the south end of the island, is building a large addition to and otherwise remodeling his cosy [*sic* – cozy] and hospitable dwelling, and many other minor improvements are under way. Mr. Chainey is a worthy successor to **Fred John** and is deserving of the patronage of the pleasure-loving public. Mr. Chainey emphatically denies the report that he intends to open a saloon at **Spread Eagle**. On the contrary, no intoxicants whatever will be sold upon the premises. Watch for his “ad” in next week’s MINING NEWS.

The Menominee Range, Iron Mountain, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume XI, Number 8 [Thursday, May 16, 1889], page 1, column 3

300,000 Wall Eyed Pike

H.D. Fisher, of Florence, deposited in **Spread Eagle lakes yesterday 300,000 young wall eyed pike from the Wisconsin state hatchery**. If these fish thrive and multiply as it is believed they will do there will be plenty of sport, in due time, for fishermen at these beautiful lakes, and we know of no one who will enjoy capturing a good string of wall eyed pike more than H.D. himself. Mr. Fisher is something like the gentleman – a former resident of this city – who said, the best sport in the world for him was to fish and catch a good string

of fish and the next best sport was to fish and not get any fish.

The Menominee Range, Iron Mountain, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume XI, Number 11 [Thursday, June 6, 1889], page 4, column 2

ELSEWHERE will be found in this issue **Mr. E. Chainey’s** advertisement of his **Spread Eagle summer resort**. Mr. Chainey has made many improvements at this popular resort that will be appreciated by the public, as they will add much to the enjoyment of those who go there. **He desires us to contradict the statement that he will have a saloon at the lakes as one of the attractions**. Mr. Chainey proposes to keep a quiet, orderly place, and seeks to secure the patronage of the better class of people.

The Current, Norway, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume V, Number 19 [Saturday, June 8, 1889], page 1, column 6

At Spread Eagle Lake.

E. Chainey, a former resident of **Crystal Falls**, now in charge of the **Spread Eagle summer resort**, means to have that lovely spot attractive this season. He has erected a **large dancing platform at the island** and also a **summer house over the water**. He is now building several fine **row boats** and a twenty-five foot **steam yacht** has been ordered and will be on the lake in about two weeks. Mr. Chainey affirms that if the **Chicago & North-Western** does not build a **depot at the landing** he will do it himself. All **Spread Eagle** has lacked heretofore is proper accommodations [*sic* – accommodations] – this want is soon to be

FLORENCE COUNTY, WISCONSIN -- COMMONWEALTH TOWNSHIP – SPREAD EAGLE NEWS COLUMNS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William John Cummings]

done away with. – Drill [*The Diamond Drill*,
Crystal Falls]

The Current, Norway, Menominee County,
Michigan, Volume V, Number 20
[Saturday, June 15, 1889], page 1,
column 6

–Two or three families of this place
intend **camping at Spread Eagle** for about
ten days during next month. The male
portion of the party will attend their duties at
home and go to the resort each evening
and return in the morning. Such outings
are conducive of much good.

–There will be a **picnic at Spread
Eagle Lakes on the 4th of July**, and **Mr.
Cheaney [sic – Chainey]** hopes to make
the day an enjoyable one for all who may
stop at his resort. His **steam launch**
has been placed in the water and will be in use
on that day. The Spread Eagle chain
o'lakes are delightful and cannot help being
appreciated by anyone visiting them.

The Menominee Range, Iron Mountain,
Menominee County, Michigan, Volume
XI, Number 13 [Thursday, June 20,
1889], page 8, column 1

Personal and Social.

Among those from this city who **angled
in the limpid waters of Spread Eagle
lake, and glided over its crystal surface
in all kinds of rowing and sail crafts** on
Sunday, were **Messrs. Paul Clifford, Robt.
Cole, Thos. Flaherty, Walt Weber, John
Sheerin, and Misses Cassie Sheerin,
Clara and Georgie Parent and Georgina
Luke.**

A **fishing party** composed of **Rev.
Father Keul, Carl Schuldes and C.E.
Berry** “trolled” for pickerel from the kitchen
of **E. Chainey’s Spread Eagle summer**

resort on Tuesday. ‘Tis even said that the
reverend gentleman visited the bottom of
the lake in a hasty endeavor to discover
why the members of the finny tribe didn’t
nibble his bait as they should.

The Florence Mining News, Florence,
Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume IX,
Number 27 [Saturday, June 29, 1889],
page 5, column 3

**EMANUEL CHAINEY has purchased a
handsome steamer for Spread Eagle
Lakes.** The new craft will be ready for
business on the Fourth.

The Florence Mining News, Florence,
Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume IX,
Number 32 [Saturday, August 3, 1889],
page 5, column 4

FRED JOHN, the former popular caterer
at **Spread Eagle**, and so well-known and
appreciated by Marinetters who so often
visited there, is now located at a popular
resort near Three Lakes, Wis., where there
is said to be a chain of twenty-six beautiful
lakes. – [Eagle.] The MINING NEWS
acknowledges the receipt of one of Fred’s
business cards, which reads as follows:
“Sherman House, Fred John, proprietor,
Three Lakes, Wis. This commodious hotel
is situated between the famous Spirit and
Laura fishing lakes, and two miles from the
village of Three Lakes. Special attention to
fishing and hunting parties. Boats, fishing
tackle and guides at the hotel.”

The Menominee Range, Iron Mountain,
Menominee County, Michigan, Volume
XI, Number 22 [Thursday, August 22,
1889], page 1, column 3

Chainey’s Summer Resort.

FLORENCE COUNTY, WISCONSIN -- COMMONWEALTH TOWNSHIP – SPREAD EAGLE NEWS COLUMNS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William John Cummings]

Chainey has added a steam boat to his fleet of craft on the Spread Eagle Lakes, which was put to service last Saturday. It will prove a very serviceable addition to his outfit. Mr. Chainey has made many improvements since he purchased **Fred John's island** and other property, which adds greatly to the comfort of those wishing to spend a few days at this delightful summer resort. **Meals are furnished** to all who desire, and excellent meals they are too; and if persons wish for a night's lodging they will find **a clean bed and comfortable room** at their disposal. **A large covered pavilion has also been erected for picnic parties who may desire it for that for any other purpose.** Other improvements will be made as they are demanded, and the popularity of these beautiful lakes for a brief summer outing cannot fail of becoming wide spread under the enterprising management of Mr. Chainey.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume IX, Number 35 [Saturday, August 25, 1889], page 5, column 2

Chainey's New Steamer.

The handsome little **steam yacht** which **H.D. Fisher** recently purchased from **Chase Osborn** at the "Soo," has been sold by the former gentleman to **Emanuel Chainey**, the "governor general" of the famous **Spread Eagle resort**. The craft was shipped direct to Florence on a flat-car, last Saturday afternoon, and was transferred to wagons by **Charley Noyes**, who hauled it to **Spread Eagle Lake** with four horses bright and early Sunday morning. The steamer was successfully launched, and, after a general overhauling of the machinery by **Geo. A. Taft**, proprietor

of the Florence machine shops, commenced making regular trips around the wonderful chain of (eleven) lakes. The steamer is 25 feet long, 4 feet 6 inches beam and, when loaded, draws 2 ½ feet of water aft. She is supplied with a 3-horse power Shipman (oil) engine and a two-blade 22 inch propeller wheel. The boat can be navigated by one man, accommodate thirteen passengers and attain a speed of six to seven miles an hour. Mr. Chainey paid \$300 for his treasure. Her present name, "Sault Ste. Marie," will doubtless be changed to something more fitting for her new station.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume IX, Number 35 [Saturday, August 25, 1889], page 5, column 3

A **TELEGRAPH station** has been established at **Spread Eagle**, with **Operator T.H. Corcoran** in charge. The office will be a great convenience to the patrons of the delightful resort.



**Ed Neubauer's launch, "The Kid"
postmarked 1908**

Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume XI, Number 1 [Saturday, December 27, 1890], page 8, column 1

FLORENCE COUNTY, WISCONSIN -- COMMONWEALTH TOWNSHIP – SPREAD EAGLE NEWS COLUMNS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William John Cummings]

May Come Here to Live.

Capt. E.R. Budd, one of the oldest and best-known explorers and cruisers in the Lake Superior iron district, spent several days in **Florence** this week, this being his first visit to the city for eight years. In a pleasant conversation with the writer, the venerable Captain said he first came to **Florence** in the spring of 1880, when there was no railroad and scarcely any houses here, although he had been cruising hereabouts since 1867, when **Florence County** was one vast wilderness. He was in the embryo city of **Florence** when **H.D. Fisher** threw out the first shovelful of dirt from the **Florence mine**, and when the old **Spread Eagle House** was the only public inn in the town. Capt. Budd related how, upon his first arrival here, he applied for lodgings at the **Spread [Eagle] Hotel**, and found the place packed beyond its limited capacity with prospectors and others. He obtained his meals at the miniature hostelry, but was compelled to accept **Peter Sheridan's** offer of a lodging by the side of a stove in the latter's saloon, which had just been started. Capt. Budd discovered the **Keel Ridge mine** and was prominent in other well-known explorations on this range. He is now a resident of Hurley and is interested in the Upson district, near that city. Capt. Budd says that at least four locations in that district will ship ore next season. The ore is of an excellent quality, but it is very deep and mining is consequently very expensive work. "Why, do you know," he declared, "that a man can accomplish more in exploring with \$1,000 in the Florence district than he could with [\$/]10,000 on the Upson range. This may sound like an exaggeration, but it is a fact, nevertheless." Capt. Budd is figuring upon certain properties in this county, with a view

of investing and may come to Florence to live in the spring. He will be heartily welcomed.

[NOTE: The Spread Eagle Hotel was located at the east end of Central Avenue in Florence, not on the Spread Eagle Chain of Lakes.]

Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume XI, Number 13 [Saturday, March 21, 1891], page 5, column 1

EMANUEL CHAINEY is erecting a **new residence and summer hotel at Spread Eagle**, on the main land adjacent to his famous little island. Mr. Chainey expects to open his summer resort to tourists and pleasure seekers in general on or about May 1st. He is making many noticeable improvements, and old Spread Eagle will be more popular than ever the coming summer.

Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume XI, Number 22 [Saturday, May 23, 1891], page 8, column 1

Spread Eagle Lake.

According to the Range, of **Iron Mountain, Spread Eagle** as a summer resort is to receive a boom this season and the agitation will no doubt result in a large amount of patronage for the place. The hotel managed at that place by **Emanuel Chainey** has received a thorough renovation and is now open for the reception of guests. During the summer a **steam yacht** commended [*sic* – *commanded*] by **Theodore Firme** will make excursion trips on the chain of nine lakes and everything made pleasant for those

FLORENCE COUNTY, WISCONSIN -- COMMONWEALTH TOWNSHIP – SPREAD EAGLE NEWS COLUMNS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William John Cummings]

who visit this place. The fishing in the vicinity is very good and one day last week a party caught a large string of bass on one of of [sic] the **Spread Eagle chain of lakes**.

The Iron Range, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume XIII, Number 13 [Thursday, June 18, 1891, page 8, column 1

SPREAD EAGLE as a summer resort is gaining considerable reputation and nearly every day during the present [sic – present] heated season large crowds of people may be seen in different parts of the place. **Chainey's hotel** is running in full blast and **Theodore Firme's steam yacht** finds plenty of employment in carrying pleasure parties to different parts of the lake. It is expected that in a few days a picnic party will come to the place to make a stay in camp for some time. The water in the lakes is becoming quite warm and on Sunday several of the boys who went bathing pronounced the water just fine.

Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume XI, Number 26 [Saturday, June 20, 1891], page 8, column 1

A Day at Spread Eagle.

The writer, accompanied by **C.S. Osborn, C.C. Olin, Capt. Davidson, H.D. Fisher** and **Will Noyes**, spent the afternoon of Monday at **Spread Eagle**, and had a most delightful time. **Capt. Theo. Firme's natty little steamer** was brought into service, and the beautiful chain o' lakes were thoroughly explored during the afternoon. Bass fishing, bathing and target-shooting was [sic – were] also indulged in. **Emanuel Chainey**, the "king of **Spread Eagle**," is enjoying a flattering patronage at

his pleasant resort this summer, and his prosperity is shared by **Oliver LeNore**, the prince of caterers, who manages the restaurant. A day at old **Spread Eagle** now and then, [sic] is one of the most enjoyable things in life during the hot months. Tired and heated denizens of the city should go there frequently.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume XI, Number 31 [Saturday, July 25, 1891], page 5, column 1

THE old club house at Spread Eagle is said to be now used for stabling horses. The parties guilty should be prosecuted for trespass and be compelled to pay heavy damages.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume VII, Number 29 [Saturday, August 22, 1891], page 8, columns 3-4

Spread Eagle Budget.

Station agent La Combe found out how cold the lake water was, Sunday.

Little **Irene Patenaude** caught a good sized fish in the **west lake** last week.

Bob. Henderson visited **Spread Eagle** quite often during last week. He had reason to, don't yer-known.

Hundreds of people from along the range, camp at the beautiful place every week in summer. If there was a first-class hotel at the lakes many more would go and spend some of the hot summer days at the resort.

A. Patenaude and family and guests broke camp, Monday, after a ten days' outing. There was nothing to mar their camping season, the weather being all that

FLORENCE COUNTY, WISCONSIN -- COMMONWEALTH TOWNSHIP -- SPREAD EAGLE NEWS COLUMNS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William John Cummings]

anyone could ask for and the pesky mosquito was not numerous.

On Sunday, **nearly a car load [railroad passenger car] of Norwayites went to the above beautiful chain o'lakes to spend the day boating and picnicing.** The following are the names of the party: **Mayor Flanningan**, wife and son, **A.N. La Combe**, wife and child, **J. Bennane** and wife, **J.H. Gee**, wife and Misses **Maud** and **Edna** and Masters **Jamie** and **Ralph**; Mrs. **J. Cooney**, Misses **Aggie Flannigan**, **Hannah O'Meara**, **J. La Combe**, **S. Rouse**, **Annie Godfrey**, **Kate King**, Master **Geo. Rouse** and **Richard M. Sampson**.

The families of **James O'Callaghan**, **George O'Callaghan** and Mrs. **M. Monroe**, accompanied by Miss **Bush**, **William Woods**, **Geo. M. Wright** and others from this city and **Quinnsec**, went to Spread Eagle, Tuesday for a couple of days outing. They carried with them basket after basket of luncheon, had their pockets full and went out for a royal good time. The young men of the party took along fishing tackle -- we didn't notice any bait -- and they of course whiled away the short hours fishing in the little bays and entertaining the lady companions they had with them.

Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume XII, Number 40 [Saturday, September 24, 1892], page 5, column 2

A TERRIBLE VISITATION.

**Chainey's Resort at Spread Eagle Lake
Destroyed by Fire -- Total Loss.**

Emanuel Chainey's cosy [sic -- cozy] and comfortable hotel, located on Fred John Island, at Spread Eagle Lake, was totally destroyed by fire at about 12

o'clock, noon, on Sunday last. Mr. and Mrs. Chainey and one or two guests of the hotel had gone over to the railroad station, (about three-quarters of a mile from the island) on the little steamer, and during their absence the building caught fire, presumably from sparks from a kitchen stove, and before the return of the party the structure was beyond saving. Mr. Chainey's loss is estimated at fully \$2,000, with no insurance whatever. Included in the loss was the burning of a quantity of money estimated at between \$400 and \$500. Mr. Chainey, who appears to have had little or no faith in banks, had all of his season's savings, about \$1,200, hidden in the house, but more than half of the amount, a roll of bills and some gold and silver, was saved in a badly damaged condition. The family lost every stitch of clothing they possessed, except that which they wore, and not an article of furniture was saved. Among the things wiped up by the ruthless fire fiend was an elegant \$400 piano, nearly new. The loss of the hotel and its valuable contents falls with crushing weight upon Mr. Chainey, who is an unusually sober and industrious man. He has worked very hard for the past two or three years in building up a fine resort at the beautiful lake, and up to this year had invested his earnings in making improvements for the entertainment of his numerous guests and visitors. The season now about closing has been quite profitable, so that the proprietor has been enabled to lay up a snug sum for a "rainy day," but Sunday's fire now compels him to start up anew. He is by no means discouraged, however, and will at once commence the work of rebuilding so as to be in readiness for next season's business.

The Range-Tribune, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume --, Number -- [Thursday, September 22, 1892], page 1, column --

FLORENCE COUNTY, WISCONSIN -- COMMONWEALTH TOWNSHIP – SPREAD EAGLE NEWS COLUMNS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William John Cummings]

Spread Eagle Hotel Burned.

Last Sunday noon the **hotel at [the] Spread Eagle summer resort** was entirely burned to the ground, there *[sic – ground. There]* was no one at the place at the time. **Mrs. Chainey** had gone with her husband to meet the noon train, and before leaving made a large fire in the kitchen stove, (where the fire was supposed to have started),, expecting a number of visitors up. On their return, the building was in flames. There was *[sic – were]* only four persons to fight the fire, and, having only water pails to work with, could do nothing but to save the adjoining buildings. **Mr. and Mrs. Chainey** lost everything except what they wore. At the time of the fire they had \$1,140 in the hotel, of which quite a sum of melted gold and silver was found. There was no insurance on the building or furniture. Mr. Chainey has the sympathy of his many friends in his misfortune.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 1, Number 14 [Thursday, August 27, 1896], page 1, column 4

Indian Burial Ground.

Two Iron Mountain gentlemen, **D.A. Graham** and **A.E. Robbins**, discovered an Indian burial ground on the island in **North Lake, Spread Eagle**, while *[sic – Eagle. While]* they were excavating a cellar for a small building, last Friday, a quantity of human bones were found. – News. *[Florence Mining News]*

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 2, Number 52 [Thursday, May 19, 1898], page 1, column 5

Eagle Island Resort.

The handsome little pleasure **steamer Columbia**, which is to carry resorters from the railway landing to the **Eagle Island resort** and other places at **Spread Eagle**, was received from Green Bay this week and will be in commission in a few days. The steamer is thirty-two feet in length, can run ten miles an hour, and has accommodations for forty passengers. The **Columbia** is the property of **Gage & Webber**, who have **leased the Eagle Island Club House** and are now engaged in refitting and re-furnishing the same in a first-class manner. In addition to the steam yacht, a handsome fleet of pleasure boats have *[sic – has]* been secured and can be rented by hour, day or week. It is proposed to conduct the resort in an orderly manner and cater to the better class of trade.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 3, Number 4 [Thursday, June 16, 1898], page 1, column 4

Cottages at Spread Eagle.

[Need to copy article.]

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 7 [Thursday, July 7, 1904], page 1, column 5

Will Build Cottages.

Andrew Bjorkman has recently sold lots adjoining his summer home at **Spread Eagle** to **L.M. Hansen** and **Jay W. Hoose**, of this city, and to **Attorney Max Sells** and **H.A. Hanson**, of **Florence**. It is the

FLORENCE COUNTY, WISCONSIN -- COMMONWEALTH TOWNSHIP – SPREAD EAGLE NEWS COLUMNS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William John Cummings]

intention of the purchasers to build summer homes.

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume XXIII, Number 5 [Saturday, March 2, 1907], page 1, column 5

Bought Island.

Sheriff E.A. Neubauer has purchased the **Tully Island** in the **Spread Eagle Chain of lakes** and it is his intention to have the same fitted up into a first-class summer resort. The present buildings will be torn down and a **new hotel** erected on modern lines, which will contain ample rooms and other accommodations of a summer hotel. Sufficient **new boats** will be added to the present fleet, to accommodate *[sic – accommodate]* the patrons of the lake. Mr. Neubauer's brother-in-law **A.M. Maret**, of Baraboo, Wis, will have charge of the new hostlery *[sic - hostelry]* and will probably commence the work of rebuilding about April 1.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 25 [Thursday, November 10, 1910], page 1, column 4

Bought a Resort.

E.A. Neubauer closed a deal yesterday for the purchase of **Shady Island summer resort at Spread Eagle** from **Bailey & Beauchamp**, who have conducted the place for ten years or more. The deal also includes the fleet of pleasure boats. Mr. Neubauer is also the owner of the **Eagle Island resort**. The Press hears that Mr. Neubauer contemplates many improvements and may decide to give the resort business his undivided attention.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 22, Number 50 [Thursday, May 2, 1918], page 1, column 1

Season at Spread Eagle.

The season's activities at **Spread Eagle Lakes** will open in a few weeks. Already the owners of cottages are renovating and repairing them prior to occupancy. **John E. Anderson**, of Norway, is **building a new and handsome summer home**. The **Gust Johnson cottage** that was **destroyed by fire** a short time ago, *[sic]* will not be rebuilt this season. The family will come here from **Chicago** as usual, but will rent another cottage for this season. The loss on the building and contents, valued at about \$2,000, is partly covered by insurance. The **Bass Island hotel and pavillion** *[sic – pavilion]*, owned and conducted by **W.S. Dennis**, will be operated as usual this season. Arrangements are being made to have the **old-time popular dancing parties** twice a week, with music by well-known orchestras. These events were more than popular last season and will be made an extra feature this season. **E.A. Neubauer** will cater to the wants of resorters as usual, having made many improvements in his hostelry during the winter. With the opening of the summer season the **steamers and launches** will ply regularly for the accommodation of visitors to this popular chain of lakes. There have already been a number of inquiries from people at **Chicago, Milwaukee** and other cities for accommodations for the summer season.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 23,

FLORENCE COUNTY, WISCONSIN -- COMMONWEALTH TOWNSHIP – SPREAD EAGLE NEWS COLUMNS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William John Cummings]

Number 3 [Thursday, June 6, 1918],
page 1, column 3

TRIPLE DROWNING

Three Young Italians Meet Death at Spread Eagle Last Sunday.

Bass Lake, at **Spread Eagle**, was the scene of a dramatic tragedy that cost the lives of three young men at about five o'clock last Sunday afternoon.

The victims were **Luigi Andreoli**, **Gianbattista Milanese** and **Edwardo Ercoli**, all unmarried.

The young men were in a small boat and were about midway between **Eagle and Bass Islands**. It was evident that the young men were not familiar with the management of the boat. The lake was rough. Getting into the sea, the boat commenced to ship water. Becoming alarmed, one of the men stood up in the boat. His example was followed by the others and this caused the boat to rock worse than ever. The men, evidently badly frightened, clinched and all fell out of the boat into the water in a struggling mass. One man made frantic attempts to swim. He was clinched by the other two, and after a struggle of a few seconds, all disappeared and never came to the surface again.

The accident was witnessed by many people. There were many boats on hand. Several rushed to the point where the young men had disappeared, but their endeavors at rescue were fruitless, as the lake at this point is very deep.

A rescuing party was organized by Alderman Payant and others. Grappling hooks and other implements were secured and the work of dragging the laks [*sic* –

lake] for the bodies started at once. The body of **Ercoli** was recovered first, about five o'clock Monday morning, that of **Milanese** shortly after the noon hour, and **Andreoli** in the evening. **Milanese** was thirty-two years of age, **Ercoli** thirty-three years of age, and **Andreoli** twenty-two.

Andreoli had one brother, **Peter**, residing here. Another brother, **Albert**, enlisted here and is now in France, and a third brother is in the Italian army. His father and mother and only sister reside in Italy.

Ercoli is a brother of **Mrs. Luigi Pollicani**, who resides in the first ward, and has no other relatives in this country.

Milanese's relatives all reside in Italy and he had two brothers in the Italian army.

All had resided in the city for six or eight years and had many friends. They were affiliated with several of the Italian societies.

The funeral was held this morning from **Holy Rosary church** and were [*sic* – *was*] largely attended, many of the **Italian organizations** attending in a body.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 23, Number 12 [Thursday, August 8, 1918], page 1, column 2

Spread Eagle.

Due to careless driving a number of automobiles were wrecked on the Spread Eagle road last Sunday evening. There were also a number of near drowning accidents, due to too much beer. We hear of one case where a boat containing five women and a case of beer was capsized. No trouble to secure all the liquid refreshments you want on Sunday at the lake and as a result the resort is securing an unsavory reputation. Florence

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county authorities appear to be entirely indifferent in the premises.

COMMONWEALTH, FLORENCE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

The Florence Mining News. Florence, Marinette County, Wisconsin, Volume I, Number 1 [Saturday, January 1, 1881], page 3, column 3

THE public school at Commonwealth, which is so ably managed by Miss Cal Kern, the teacher, has, owing to a decrease in the working force of the mine, only about 25 scholars at the present time. These are making very satisfactory progress and the MINING NEWS will give the school report in due season.

The Florence Mining News. Florence, Marinette County, Wisconsin, Volume I, Number 1 [Saturday, January 1, 1881], page 3, column 4

THE new railway depot at Commonwealth, [*sic*] is almost completed. The size of the building at present, [*sic*] is 16x48, which includes within these limits, a warehouse, waiting room, telegraph and private office. It is located as near the center of the town as is practicable, considering the nature of the ground, and on the south side of the main track and side track. The management, however, intend [*sic – intends*] to remedy this difficulty, and next season, to remove the side track to the rear of the depot, and remove the depot up to the main track. It is a great convenience to the citizens of Commonwealth, and we congratulate them on its erection.

FLORENCE, FLORENCE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

The Menominee Range, Iron Mountain, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume XI, Number 20 [Thursday, August 8, 1889], page 1, column 2

QUITE large delegations from this city and towns along the range visited **Florence** last Monday and took part in the **Masonic ceremonies of laying the corner stone of the new court house in that city.** The people of Florence treated their visitors with that hospitality for which they are noted, and the celebration was a complete success in every respect.

LONG LAKE, FLORENCE COUNTY, WISCONSIN

The Florence Mining News. Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume XXVI, Number 25 [Saturday, May 26, 1906], page 1, column 1

A NEW VILLAGE.

The North-Western R.R. Co. Lays Out a New Townsite, on Its New Extension, in Florence County.

The **Chicago & North-Western Company** has laid out a new townsite or village on its new **Saunders extension** in the **extreme western part of Florence County**, and has named it "**Long Lake**," after a lake close by and which is **partly in Florence and partly in Forest Counties.** The new townsite is in the southwest

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quarter of section 19, 39 15. The infant village, which is situated in fine farming country, consists of four blocks. The two principal streets, Main and Walnut, run northeast and southwest, with five side streets – Oak, Maple, Elm, Ash and Pine Streets. The two center blocks have been platted into lots for business and residence purposes. A **depot** will be built there and a tract of land along the tracks has been reserved for warehouses and depot grounds. The plat of “Long Lake” was recently recorded in the office of **Register of Deeds Clement** at the court house in this city.

The Florence Mining News. Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume XXVI, Number 26 [Saturday, June 2, 1906], page 1, column 2

LONG LAKE.

More Concerning Florence County’s New Village – Populated Already with Hustlers.

Long Lake, the **Chicago & North-Western’s new townsite** in the **extreme western part of the town of Florence**, is rapidly taking on the semblance of a full-fledged village. A large **sawmill** is now under construction on the **Pine River**, two miles from Long Lake, which will give employment to a large number of men. Twenty-five or thirty lots in the village have been sold at prices ranging from \$75 to \$150 each. The railroad company has built a neat little **depot**; **four saloon buildings** are under construction, two of which are already doing business, and a man named

Johnson is putting up a building for a **general store**. The same gentleman has applied to the town board of Florence for appointment as justice of the peace, and he also expected to be postmaster as soon as the government establishes a postoffice [*sic – post office*] there. **Henry Dalton**, one of Long Lake’s hustling young citizens, was appointed **deputy sheriff** by **Sheriff Molloy** yesterday, and he will see to it that law and order prevails in the new community. That Long Lake will grow and prosper, there is no doubt, as it has a fine hardwood country to draw from; the new sawmill will insure a good business there, and two charming lakes near by [*sic – nearby*] will be boomed by the railroad company as summer resorts. It is said the country thereabout affords excellent sport for the hunter and fisherman, as the forests abound with game, including deer, and the lakes and streams are filled with all kinds of fish. It is confidently believed that on or before July 1 four or five trains will be running regularly on the **Saunders extension**, as by that time the roadway will be properly ballasted for traffic.